TO THE

Lords Spiritual and Temporal

AND

Commons Assembled

IN

PARLIAMENT.

The Humble Petition of the Poor Prisoners in Ludgate, *the* Fleet, *and other Prisons,*

Sheweth,

THAT Your Petitioners being many Thousands in Number, of which the greatest part are willing to serve Your Majesties, both at Sea or Land, according to their several Capacities: By divers Losses and Misfortunes, together with the Deadness of Trade, are Reduced to a very Low and Mean condition, most of them having Groaned under the Heavy Burthen of Long Confinement, whereby they are rendred uncapable of supporting themselves and their Miserable Families, and of being Serviceable to their King and Country (being Buried alive in the dismal Grave of Close Imprisonment) by their Mercileſs Creditors, whose Cruelty is so great, that they will neither Commiserate the Distresses of their Wives and Children, (who daily cry for Bread,) nor allow them Time to pay their Debts, insomuch that they must unavoidably perish for want of Sustenance, unless they are Retrieved by the Mercy and Goodness of our Gracious Soveraigns and these Honourable Houses.

May it therefore please Your Honours to take into Your Pious Consideration the Sad and Deplorable Condition of Your Poor Petitioners, and their Necessitated Families, by being Instrumental that an Act of Grace *may Pass for their Enlargement, that so they may be preserved from utter Ruine and Destruction who are ready to Sacrifice their Lives at Their Majesties Feet; For whose Long and Happy Reign, and the Lives and Union of Both Houses of Parliament,*

Your Petitioners, as in all Duty Bound, do daily Pray, &c.

80001

UMI